



Cranston Memorial Presbyterian Church

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday After Epiphany

GATHERING

ANNOUNCEMENTS, SHARED JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT AND REKINDLING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 1)

One: Like trees planted by streams of water

ALL: **Let us trust in the Lord**

One: and meditate on God's Word

ALL: **so we can yield good and bountiful fruit.**

One: Let us worship God together!

*** HYMN #281 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

Who can understand the heart? Only God. Let us confess the ways we have turned from the One who knows us and saves us.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sustaining God, you lead us through parched wilderness to streams of living water, but we do not root ourselves in health and wholeness. We ignore your rich provisions, choosing the world's latest fad and shallow self-help. We sentimentalize the spiritual and ignore the deeper needs of our souls. Merciful God, forgive our arrogance and our ignorance. Remind us of our spiritual needs and the many ways you are here to provide. Amen.

TIME FOR SILENT PRAYER AND REFLECTION



ASSURANCE OF PARDON (based on Jeremiah 17:8)

Blessed are those who trust the Lord. When heat comes, our leaves will stay green. In a year of drought, we will not cease to bear fruit. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

Amen.

*** GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (unison)

The Lord tests the mind and searches the heart. In this moment of proclamation, O God, may our hearts and minds be receptive to you and your way. Amen.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. They shall be like a shrub in the desert and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse-- who can understand it? I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

SECOND READING

Psalm 1

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or take the path that sinners tread or sit in the seat of scoffers, but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous, for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

SERMON

Happy Are Those

The Rev. David Annett



*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Apostle's Creed*)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** HYMN #158**

The One Is Blest

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

PRESENTATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

God has led us to prosperity. Let us return to God a portion of all that we have been given.

*** DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from Whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

God, you have sustained us in lean times and led us to sources of living water. Take these gifts and multiply their blessings for those who are hungry, hurting and in need of your strength. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

*** HYMN #379**

My Hope Is Built On Nothing Less

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

**** Please stand in body or in spirit***



WELCOME TO CRANSTON! We send two emails each week to those interested: an invitation to worship and a summary of prayer concerns and announcements. If you would like to be added to the email list, please contact Pastor David Annett, by phone or at pastor@cranstonchurch.org. Considering Membership? Contact Pastor David Annett.


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COVER ARTWORK: Tree planted by streams of water, photograph

PRAYER AND PRACTICE FOR THE WEEK:

What is the "water" that you most need from God this week?

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